

Message Text

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ORIGIN LAB-04

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

UNCLAS STATE 012313

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: NI/ELAB

SUBJ: DOL INDUSTRIAL SAFETY SEMINAR

FOR : LAB ATTACHE

REF: LAGOS 0201

1) DOL DISAPPOINTED THAT EMBASSY AND LAB MINISTRY UNABLE TO (1) ACCEPT PROPOSED FEBRUARY DATES FOR SEMINAR (2) PROVIDE SPECIFIC ALTERNATE DATES FOR SEMINAR.

2) LABOR ACCEPTS MINISTERS DESIRE TO HAVE AN ATMOSPHERE OF TRANQUILLITY FOR SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS BUT REQUEST THAT BOTH EMBASSY AND MINISTRY RECOGNIZE THE VALUE OF A FIRM DATE IN RECRUITMENT OF U.S. EXPERTS FOR THE MISSION.

3) WASHINGTON HAD COMPLETED MISSION RECRUITMENT WITH INDUSTRY, TRADE UNION AND GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS USING THE PROPOSED FEBRUARY DATE AND WE WERE PREPARING SPECIFIC CONTENT TO MEET MINISTERS REQUEST FOR INCLUSION OF WORKMENS COMPENSATION BENEFITS AS PART OF SEMINAR AND FOLLOWING EMBASSY SUGGESTIONS TO CONFINE MAJOR PORTION OF EMINAR TO OIL AND CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY.

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4) CANCELLATION OF PROPOSED DATES NOW REQUIRING
DEPARTMENT TO BEGIN ENTIRE RECRUITMENT AND PREPARATION PROCESS
OVER BECAUSE PERSONS NOW COMMITTED HAVE CANCELED THEIR
PARTICIPATION DUE TO EMPLOYER AND PERSONAL OBLIGATIONS.

5) WASHINGTON ASSUMES LAB ATTACHE AND MINISTRY AWARE OF
OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS CONNECTED WITH ACTIVITY
OF THIS TYPE AND WILL SEEK APPROVAL OF MINISTRY OF EX-
TERNAL AFFAIRS (NOT MENTIONED IN REFTEL) SO ONCE NEW
DATE ESTABLISHED WASHINGTON CAN BEGIN AGAIN.

6) ASSUMPTION ALSO MADE THAT EMBASSY AWARE THAT IDEAL TIME OR
SERENE ATMOSPHERE MAY NEVER BE AVAILABLE IN A FIELD
SO CHANGEABLE AS COLLECTIVE BARGAINING IN LABOR-MANAGEMENT
AND THAT REASONS FOR DELAY WILL ALWAYS BE PRESENT IF LOOKED
FOR OR SOUGHT. HOWEVER THIS SEMINAR NOT CONTROVERSIAL
AND CAN MAKE SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO LABOR, MANAGEMENT,
GOVERNMENT AND THE GENERAL WELFARE.
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